

Alexander Perry or Benjamin Perry?

What We Know About Alexander Perry, Benjamin Perry and Their Two Sons, John H. Perry and John H. Perry

Compiled by Jackie Layne Partin (ggg-granddaughter of John Perry and Malinda “Linnie” Dykes Perry)

Note: Because of two mistakes (*in my opinion*) made many years ago, some Perry descendants today trace their heritage back to Alexander Perry (husband of Elizabeth Woodlee Perry) when they should be connecting to Benjamin Perry (husband of Delaney Perry). In a Warren County, TN Cemetery Book 2, John Perry (husband of Malinda/Linnie Dykes) was stated to be the son of Alexander and Elizabeth Perry. I don't know where this information came from or who wrote this record, but I believe it is wrong and has led some to the wrong Perry line. Also, I believe that Mrs. Margaret Coppinger has a similar note in her book on Beersheba Springs, and although she has done wonderful work to the benefit of us all, I believe she was wrong on this point. And let me say here, I have been wrong before and may be now, but I'm willing to hear other ideas. Please give me some feedback. jackie

- 1794—[Alexander Perry](#) was born in Kentucky in 1793 (1850 Census—Sarcoxie, Jasper Co., Missouri and 1883 History of Jasper County, Missouri)
- 1791—[Benjamin Perry](#) was born in North Carolina (1850 Census—Grundy Co., TN and on 26 Feb 1791 tombstone inscription)
- 1814—[Alexander Perry](#) married Elizabeth Woodlee on 18 July 1814 in Warren Co., Tennessee. Elizabeth was born in Virginia (Census).
- 1812?—[Benjamin Perry](#) married Delaney “Laney” ____?____ (possibly “Cagle”) When and Where unknown but probably around 1812 in NC per their daughter Elizabeth's birth.
- 1816—[Alexander Perry](#) and his wife Elizabeth had a son named John H. Perry according to researchers. Their son probably would have been born in Alabama between 1816- 1820 in reason with their marriage date and where they were probably living in 1820.

- **1816**—[Benjamin Perry](#) and his wife Delaney had a son named John H. Perry according to researchers. Their son probably was born in Warren Co., Tennessee around 1816 in reason with their approximate marriage date and where they were living in 1820.
- **1820**—[Alexander Perry](#) was living in Alabama (per some of his children's birth there ca. 1820)
- **1820**—[Benjamin Perry](#) was living in Warren Co., Tennessee (Warren Co., TN Census and Surname List)—Sequatchie County, where his home was, had not yet been formed.
- **1830**—[Alexander Perry](#) was living in Marion County, Tennessee (Census) (Deed 1828 Marion Co., TN shows to Alexander Perry—L. T. Townley's notes)
- **1830**—[Benjamin Perry](#) (whereabouts uncertain) There was a John B. Perry in Warren Co., TN in 1830 who might be John Benjamin Perry—but will have to study more. Benjamin Perry is on the 1838 Warren Co., TN Tax List, so he was probably still in Warren County but not counted.
- **1840**—[Alexander Perry](#) was living in Bradley Co., Tennessee (Census record)
- **1840**—[Benjamin Perry](#) (unknown, but probably still in Warren Co., TN)
- **1840**—**(A) John Perry** (one of the men whose parentage is disputed) probably still at home with parents per 1840 Bradley Co. record of one male between the ages of 20 and 30, or he could have been the young John Perry between the ages of 20 and 30 listed in Bradley Co., TN Census.
- **1840**—**(B) John Perry** (the other man whose parentage is disputed) is living in Warren Co., married to Malinda Dykes Perry with one daughter (probably Mary Euphema)
- **1848**—[Alexander Perry](#) moved to Sarcoxie, Jasper Missouri (History of Jasper County, Missouri)
- **1850**—[Alexander Perry](#) was living in Sarcoxie, Jasper, Missouri. He had moved from Tennessee to Missouri in 1848. He and Elizabeth had these children at home with them at that time: George (ca. 1824), Greer (1828), Mary (1831), Margaret (1833), Udora (1835), and Lucretia (1840). All of these except George were born in

Tennessee. George was born in Alabama around 1824. This gives plenty of room for Alexander and Elizabeth to have had several more children between their marriage in 1814 and the birth of George around 1824. I have read of other names—John Perry, Lydia Perry, Ann Perry and Malinda Perry. I can neither confirm nor deny these, but certainly will concede that there were at least two more children. I believe this paper will confirm John H. Perry as being one of the children.

- **1850**—**Benjamin Perry** was living in Grundy Co., Tennessee in household (# 76) with his wife Delaney and three of his children, Nancy, M. H. (female) and Louisa Jane.
- **1850**—**(A) John Perry** (one of the men whose parentage is in question was living ??? (*I'm still looking for that info*))
- **1850**—**(B) John Perry** (the other man whose parentage is in question was living in Grundy County household (#73), next door to his sister Rachel Perry King and three households away from Benjamin and Delaney Perry.)
- **1860**—**Alexander Perry** was living (HH # 200) in Sarcoxie, Jasper, Missouri with his wife Elizabeth and his youngest daughter Lucretia. Living next door (HH # 201) to them were his daughter Udora (Perry) Beasley and her family, and in their household was another daughter Mary (Perry) Beasley and her family. Now here is the clincher, in HH # 202 was J. H. Perry (40) (born ca. 1820 in Alabama) living with his family. In HH # 204 lived another son Greer Perry and his family. This account has a father, mother and five of their children living one household after the other—interesting!
- **1860**—**Benjamin Perry** was living in Sequatchie Co., TN since it was formed in 1857; he would now be in that county probably without moving an inch. Further proof is that he signed a deed on 11 Sep 1866 to Henry Lawson White Hill (L. T. Townley's notes)
- **1860**—**(A) J. H. Perry** (one of the men whose parentage is questioned) was living in Sarcoxie, Jasper , Missouri two doors away from Alexander Perry and amongst four of his siblings.) He is 40 years old, born in Alabama and married to Elizabeth ? who was born in NC. They have three children at the time: Mary (9); Prudence (5) and Harrison (3). J.H. Perry's grandmother's maiden name was "Harrison." All three Children were born in Missouri. The initial "J" in J. H. Perry stands for John per 1870 Benton Co., Arkansas Census.

If this was “this John Perry’s first marriage”, then it looks as though he married around the age of 29/30 or ca. 1849/50.

- **1860—(B) John Perry** (the other man whose parentage is questioned) was probably living in Sequatchie next to Benjamin Perry on Perry Creek. There is no Census record for Benjamin or this John Perry in 1860 that I can find. In 1866 this John Perry signed the same deed that Benjamin Perry signed for H. L. W. Hill.
- **1864—Alexander Perry** died 11 Sep 1864 in Marysville Indian Territory. He was killed by the Pin Indians. He left behind a wife and **eight** living children (History of Jasper County Missouri)
- **1870—Benjamin Perry** died 26 April 1870 (tombstone inscription) in Cagle, Sequatchie Co., Tennessee. He is buried on Perry Creek next to his homeplace in the Cagle Community. (I have seen the gravesite and inscribed stone—jackie).
- **1870—Elizabeth Woodlee Perry**, Alexander’s widow, was living in ?????
- **1870—Delaney Perry**, Benjamin’s widow, was living in Sequatchie Co., TN, district 8—household #16 with two of her daughters, Elizabeth and Louisa Perry. The husband and father, Benjamin had died in April of that year before the Census record was taken in August.
- **1870—(A) John Perry** (the man whose parentage is questioned)—was (50) living in Osage, Benton, Co., Arkansas with his wife Elizabeth and children: Prudence, Harrison and Ella. This John states that he was born in Alabama which is more proof that he is the son of Alexander who was in Alabama in 1820. His daughter Mary Perry Pace and two grandchildren, Lucretia and John were also in the house with him. It appears that Mary named her daughter after her own sister Lucretia and her son after her father John H. Perry. This is further evidence to me that this John H. Perry is tied directly to Alexander and Elizabeth Woodlee Perry.
- **1870—(B) John Perry** (the other man whose parentage is questioned)—was living in Sequatchie Co., TN, district 8—household (#15) with his wife Malinda Dykes Perry; this was next door to **Delaney Perry** widow of Benjamin Perry and two of his sisters Elizabeth and Louisa. I have no doubt whatsoever that these folks were living on Perry Creek in the Cagle area of Sequatchie at the old homeplace. It was this Elizabeth who bought and planted the tombstones for her parents Benjamin and Delaney Perry and for her brother James. She

never married, but it is greatly accepted that she is the mother of Andrew Jackson Perry b. 1844. A recent note I found says that A. J. had a twin who died at birth.

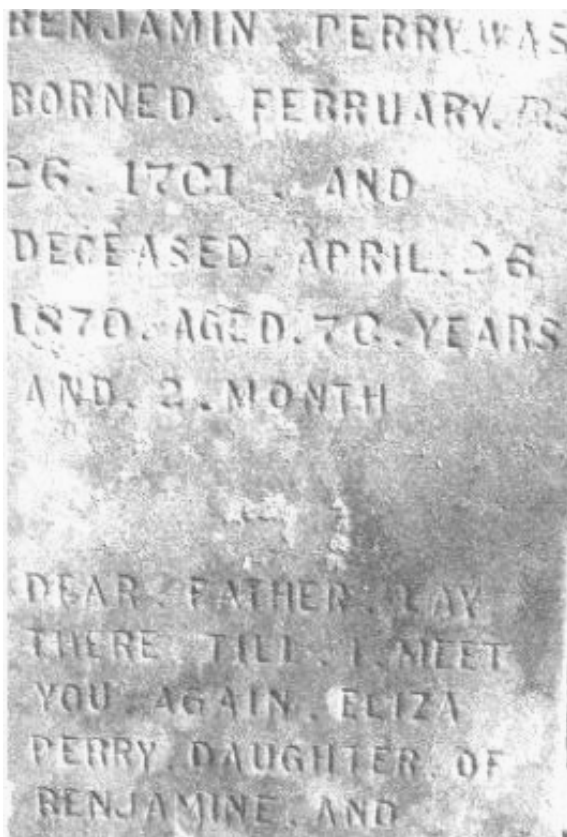
- **1876—Elizabeth Woodlee Perry** died in Arkansas. (History of Jasper County Missouri)
- **1880—(A) John Perry** (the man whose parentage is questioned) was living in ???????
- **1880—(B) John Perry** (the other man whose parentage is questioned) is living in Warren County, Irving College, with his wife Malinda/Linnie Dykes Perry and the two youngest children Isiah and Isaac Floyd Perry.
- **1881—Delaney Perry** died and was buried in Sequatchie Co., TN at Perry Cemetery on Perry Creek.
- **1884—John Houston Perry, Sr.** died 14 Sep 1884 and is buried at Hills Creek Cemetery (now known as Center Hill Cemetery) in Warren Co., TN
- **1907—Malinda Linnie Dykes Perry** died and was buried at Philadelphia Cemetery in Grundy County, Tennessee—she did not want to be buried by her husband John Houston Perry, Sr.

Children I have listed for Alexander and Elizabeth Woodlee Perry:

- 1) Malinda Perry (1818-b. Alabama probably Limestone County)
- 2) John H. Perry (1820-b. Alabama)
- 3) George H. Perry (1824-b. Alabama)
- 4) Greer Perry (1828-b. Marion Co., Tennessee)
- 5) Mary “Polly” Perry (1831-b. Marion Co., Tennessee)
- 6) Margaret E. Perry (1833-b. Marion Co., Tennessee)
- 7) Udora Perry (1835-b. Bradley Co., Tennessee)
- 8) Lucretia Perry (1840 b. Bradley Co., Tennessee)
- 9)

Children I have listed for Benjamin and Delaney Perry; this is a tentative list:

- 1) Elizabeth Perry (1813 b. North Carolina)
- 2) John Houston Perry (1816 b. Warren Co., Tennessee (no Sequatchie County at this time or during the rest of children's births but they were probably all born at the old homeplace in what became Sequatchie County, TN)
- 3) Rachel Perry (1818 b. Warren Co., Tennessee)
- 4) Henry Perry (1820 b. Warren Co., Tennessee)
- 5) Nancy Jane Perry (1827 b. Warren Co., Tennessee)
- 6) M. H. Perry (1831 b. Warren Co., Tennessee)
- 7) James Perry (1836 b. Warren Co., Tennessee)
- 8) Louisa Jane Perry (1839 b. Warren Co., Tennessee)
- 9) Nellie Perry (1840 b. Warren Co., Tennessee)



Benjamin and Delaney Perry's Headstones on Perry Creek, Cagle, Sequatchie Co., Tennessee

**LOOK ON FOLLOWING PAGES FOR BIOGRAPHIES ON
ALEXANDER AND GREER PERRY**

Pages from History of Jasper County, Missouri (1883) I will continue to search for John H. Perry in 1880. If anyone finds that info, please let me know. Jackie Partin

Hollingsworths of South Carolina. Representatives of both branches of the family settled in Knox county, Ind., in territorial days.

B. F. PAXTON, farmer and stock-raiser, section 8, post-office Sarcoxie, a native of Kentucky, born in Adair county, Dec. 2, 1829, and was there reared to the age of nineteen and received a rudimentary education at the subscription schools; immigrated with his parents to southwest Missouri in 1850, and settled in Lawrence county, near Oregon, where our subject lived many years; was there during the war of the Rebellion. Not being subject to military duty he was not disturbed by either party, though some of his property was sacrificed. Was married in Lawrence county, Mo., Nov. 30, 1854, to Miss Mary A. Moore, also a native of Adair county, Ky. She died in Lawrence county, in Sept., 1873, at the age of thirty-seven, leaving a family of four children. He was married again in Lawrence county, on July 2d, 1876, to Mrs. Mary S. West, also a native of Adair county, Ky. Mr. Paxton became a citizen of Jasper county in Oct., 1876, when he purchased the farm on which he now lives, consisting of 315 acres. Since his residence here Mr. Paxton has made many material improvements, among them a fine commodious residence, with yards and lawns. A large spring gushes forth within a few rods of the farm buildings, from which flows a magnificent stream of water, clear as a crystal, known as Jenkins Creek; a hydraulic ram throws the water from the spring to the house. The neighbors have a never failing supply of water and freedom to haul away as much as they choose. Mr. Paxton is a member of the Jenkins Creek Mining Company. Their mining prospects are now flattering. He takes an interest in what will redound to the public weal.

-----> ALEXANDER PERRY, deceased, was born in Kentucky in 1793, moved to Tennessee at an early day and settled in Warren county; afterward lived in other parts of the state. Was married in Warren county, Tenn., about the year 1813, to Miss Elizabeth Woodlee, a native of Virginia. Shortly after marriage volunteered in United States army for the War of 1812, and was engaged at the battle of New Orleans. Came to Jasper county, Mo., in 1848. During the war of the Rebellion, though too old for service, was an ardent Southern man, for which he lost his life while on his way south. Was killed by a band of Pin Indians, near Marysville, I. T., Sept. 11, 1864, in the seventy-second year of his age, leaving a wife and eight children. His widow died in Ark., in 1876, aged seventy-six years.

GREER PERRY, farmer and stock-raiser, section 16, post-office Carthage. He was born in Marion county, Tenn., Feb. 13, 1828; was there reared and received an education at the subscription schools. In 1848 moved with his parents to southwest Missouri, and settled in Jasper county at the head

of Jenkins Creek. The spring which forms the head of Jenkins Creek still bears the name of Perry Spring. Our subject was married in Lawrence county, Mo., Nov. 13, 1856, to Miss Isabelle H. Angler, a native of North Carolina. Mrs. Perry died at the homestead in Jasper county January 21, 1872, leaving seven children. During the war Mr. Perry adhered to the principles inculcated by his birth and education, though never taking up arms. In 1862 the Sixth Kansas Regiment and Pin Indians camped upon his farm and pillaged his property, leaving them at their departure many hundred dollars poorer than at their advent, having destroyed nearly everything they could not take away. The following year he left the county, going to Lawrence county, where he remained until the close of the war, when he returned to the wreck of his former home, and though somewhat oppressed by causes engendered by the late unpleasantness, has been in the main prosperous. Was married the second time, May 30, 1882, to Mrs. Elizabeth Harama; a native of Pennsylvania, who is the mother of three children by former marriage. Mr. Perry's farm consists of 125 acres of good land, about sixty-five acres in cultivation, which is very productive.

JOHN C. POWELL, farmer and stock-raiser, section 4; post-office, Reeds; is a native of southwest Missouri, born in Lawrence county, Dec. 21, 1844. Was there reared, and received a common school education. Moved to Polk county, Mo., with his parents during the war of the Rebellion, where he was married Sept. 28, 1865, to Miss Frances Appleby, a native of Dade county, Mo., reared and educated in Polk county, Mo. By this union there are six children. Their names are Everett H., Sarah J., Leora E., John S., John R., and an infant. Mr. Powell became a resident of Jasper county, Mo., in 1867, located at Sarcoxie, and engaged in farming, living there until 1873, when he purchased the farm where he now lives, which consists of seventy-five acres, sixty-two acres well improved, with good house, barn, orchard, etc. His parents were natives of Tennessee and settled in southwest Missouri in 1839.

JOSIAH L. RALSTON, farmer and stock-raiser. Mr. Ralston lives in section thirty-six. His post-office address is Carthage. He was born in Jasper county, April 8, 1850. His father, Nathan Ralston, was a native of North Carolina; came to Jasper county, Mo., and settled on Center Creek, where he lived until the war drove them off, and he died July 27, 1864. During his life he was a man of extraordinary energy, coming to Jasper county with but a few hundred dollars and at the end of his life being the possessor of over 1,300 acres of good land. His horses, cattle, and sheep were mostly driven off by the bushwhackers during the early days of the war. His crops were destroyed and grain taken from his farm. At one